

REMARKS

Claims 1 - 13, 15, 16, 19 - 44, 46 - 49 and 51 - 57 are now pending in the application. Applicants thank the Examiner for the allowance of claims 21 – 33, 51 and 52, and that claims 9, 10, 12 – 16, 38, 42 – 49 and 53 – 57 would be allowable if rewritten into independent form incorporating the limitations of the respective claims from which they depend.

Applicants have amended claim 1 to incorporate the limitations of claim 14, which depended directly from claim 1. Applicants have also amended claim 34 to incorporate the limitations of claim 45, which depended directly from claim 34. Applicants submit that amended claims 1 and 34 are now in condition for allowance.

Claims 2 – 13, 15, 16, 19, 20, 47 - 49 and 56 depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 1 and are allowable for at least that reason.

Claims 35 – 44, 46, 53 – 55 and 57 depend directly or indirectly from amended claim 34 and are allowable for at least that reason.

Claims 14 and 45 have been cancelled by this amendment.

Applicants understand that the Office Action mailed July 30, 2003 supercedes and replaces the Office Action mailed April 23, 2003 including restarting the time period by which a response must be filed. As such, applicants submit that this amendment is timely filed. To the extent that any extension of time is required to respond, applicants' respectfully request the same.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that all of the stated grounds of rejection have been properly traversed, accommodated, or rendered moot. Applicant therefore respectfully requests that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all presently outstanding rejections. It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this amendment is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: AUG. 5, 2003

By: R.G. Fuller III
Roland A. Fuller III
Reg. No. 31,160

HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
P.O. Box 828
Bloomfield Hills, Michigan 48303
(248) 641-1600

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